

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 00643 051315Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

IO-10 AID-05 /090 W

----- 024450

R 021759Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1163

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0643

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GY, US, VN, VS

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO EVENTS IN INDOCHINA

1. EVENTS IN INDOCHINA HAVE GENERALLY TAKEN BACK SEAT IN LOCAL MEDIA TO REPORTING OF ATTENDANCE OF PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM AT COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN KINGSTON. SO FAR ONLY SIGNIFICANT ITEM OF COMMENTARY AMIDST WIRE SERVICE STORIES APPEARING IN GOVT-OWNED PRESS WAS REPORT OF PM BURNHAM'S REACTION FROM KINGSTON. AT PRESS CONFERENCE BURNHAM REPORTEDLY PRAISED COURAGE OF VIETNAMESE AND SAID ONE LESSON TO BE LEARNED WAS THAT A PEOPLE WHO WERE COMMITTED COULD NOT BE MOVED "EVEN BY THE MOST POWERFUL MILITARY POWER". HE ADDED THAT THE U.S. SHOULD ALSO LEARN FROM VIETNAMESE EXPERIENCE TO LIVE WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF DIFFERENT IDEOLOGIES JUST AS IT LIVES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. BURNHAM SENT FORMAL CONGRATULATORY CABLE TO PRG FROM KINGSTON.

2. PREDICATBLY, MOST STRIDENT PUBLIC REACTION TO EVENTS IN INDOCHINA HAS COME FROM MOSCOW --LINE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY. EDITORIAL IN PPP PARTY PAPER, MIRROR EXPRESSED "AWE" AND ADMIRATION" FOR "GLORIOUS" ACHIEVEMENTS OF PRG AND CONDEMNED U.S. "NEO-COLONIALISM".

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3. PRIVATELY, WHETHER THROUGH DISINTEREST OUT OF SYMPATHY, FEW
GUYANESE HAVE RAISED QUESTION OF VIETNAM WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS.
KREBS

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NNN

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